

# The Office of the Secretary of State

## Departmental Budget Overview

**Joint Appropriations Subcommittee for General Government**

**February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015**



**FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION**  
A Staff Agency of the North Carolina General Assembly

# Outline

1. Authorizing Laws and Agency Mission

2. Roles and Responsibilities

3. Budget Overview

4. Division Descriptions

# Authorizing laws

- NC State Constitution, Article III, Section 7(1)
  - Creates Secretary of State's position, elected to a four year term
- G.S. 143 A-11
  - Creation of the Department
- G.S. 147-34 through 54.7A
  - Lays out the duties of the Department
- G.S. 120C
  - Lobbying laws

# Mission

- This agency's mission is to support economic growth, promote the public trust and fulfill statutory mandates by providing initial infrastructure for corporate organizations and transactions, protecting citizens and businesses from misrepresentation and fraud by providing public access to accurate and timely information, through law enforcement and through the issuance of professional credentials. The department fosters a well informed citizenry, business community and government, by promoting a responsive, transparent, competitive, and ethical business climate.

# Roles and Responsibilities

1. Maintain business document filing system available to the public
2. Ensure the reliability of signatures on transaction documents used by the legal, real estate, business, and financial communities
3. Register and regulate lobbying activity

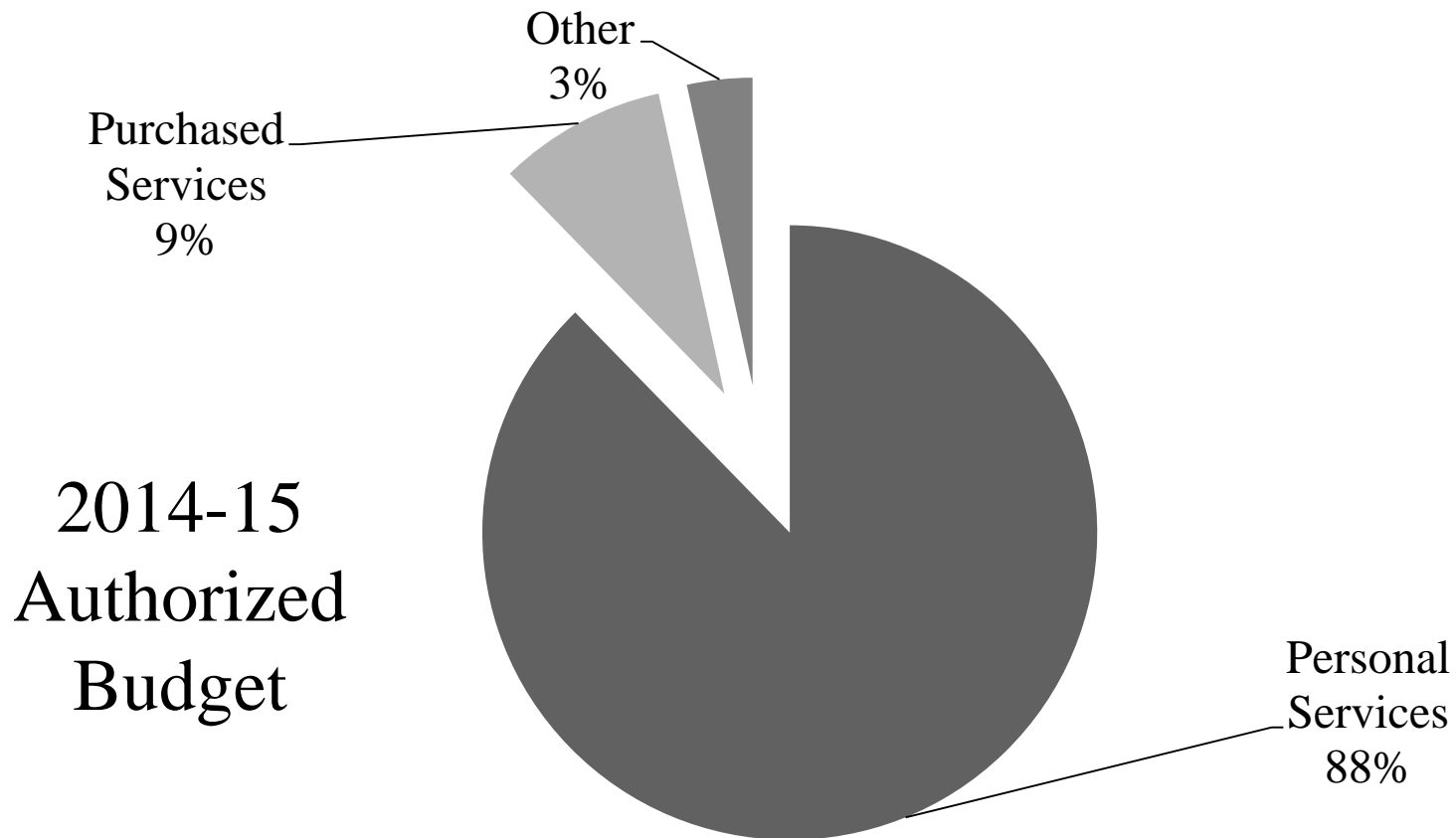
# Roles and Responsibilities

4. Protect investments, charitable donations, and intellectual property through fraud investigations
5. Assist businesses and institutions in engaging the international community
6. Advance the delivery of e-government services

# Secretary of State's Budget

	<b>FY 2010-11 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2011-12 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2012-13 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2013-14 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2014-15 Authorized</b>
Total Requirements	\$11,556,443	\$11,405,729	\$11,726,069	\$11,538,002	\$12,056,004
Total Receipts	\$1,472,226	\$1,442,508	\$198,051	\$165,099	\$370,464
Appropriation	\$10,084,217	\$9,963,221	11528018	\$11,372,903	\$11,685,540
FTEs	180.75	176.75	176.75	173.75	171.75

# Breakdown of Expenditures





# Divisions

- General Administration
- Publications
- Corporations
- Securities
- Certification and Filing
- Charitable Fundraising Licensing
- Lobbying Compliance

# Presentation from the Secretary of State

- House Bill 14: Start-Ups Act/New Markets Tax Credit
  - Crowdfunding
  - Budget request from Secretary of State
- Update on electronic filing for lobbyists
  - Required in the 2013 budget bill

# Questions?

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# Description of Divisions: General Administration

- Manage the agency
- Human Resource functions
- Information Technology
- Training

# Description of Divisions: Publications

- Prepare and distribute the NC Manual, the Directory of State and County Officials, and other informational material
- Serve as custodian to all public documents filed with the Secretary of State's office and make those documents available to the public

# Description of Divisions: Lobbying Compliance

- Register lobbyists and principals
- Registration fee is \$250
- Analyze lobbyists expenditure reports and make them available to the public
- Investigate possible violations of the state's lobbying laws

# Description of Divisions: Corporations

- Ensure that all business filings contain all statutory requirements and placed on the public record
- Ensure that trademark applications follow all NC statutes, investigate possible trademark violations, educate local law enforcement and the public about trademark violations
- Ensure that documents requiring authentication or apostille follow the necessary requirements

# Description of Divisions: Certification and Filing

- Administer the Notary/eNotary, Uniform Commercial Code, and Federal Tax lien programs
- Review complaints filed against Notaries
- Examine commercial lien filings and Notary applications
- File federal tax liens
- Examine and process land records filings and provide training and assistance to local governments concerning land records



# Description of Divisions: Securities

- Examines and authorizes applications from stockbrokers and investment advisers to sell investments
- Examines and authorizes applications from businesses seeking to sell investments to raise capital
- Investigates fraud in the sale of securities and investment scams
- Administers the Qualified Business Tax Credit Program and the Fairness Hearings

# Description of Divisions:

## Charitable Fundraising Licensing

- Registers charitable organizations and fundraising professionals
- Investigates possible violations of the Charitable Solicitations Act